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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington D.C.

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LIVESTOCK AND MEATS  
FLM 15-63  
November 1963

## PER CAPITA MEAT CONSUMPTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES, 1962

World meat consumption per person continues to increase slightly each year. The average per capita consumption of meat in 1962 in 39 countries for which reports are available was 96.1 pounds compared with 89.0 pounds in 1953 for 37 reporting countries.

The world population was approximately 3.1 billion in 1962, an increase of 650 million people or 19 percent since 1953. World meat production, excluding Communist China, rose from 84 billion pounds to 109 billion pounds, a 30 percent increase, in the same period. Thirty-four of 39 reporting countries showed increases in per capita meat consumption from 1953 to 1962 and 5 countries reported decreases. Four of the five countries showing decreases were in South America. During 1962, per capita consumption of meat increased in 28 of 39 reporting countries, declined in 6 countries and did not change in five.

Since 1953, consumption of meat has increased 30 percent reflecting a sharp rise in world meat output and unusually strong demand due to world prosperity and higher income standards. Further increases in per capita consumption and supplies can be expected because of favorable livestock prices, improved breeding, production and ample feed and pasture resources in a large number of countries.

This Circular contains more detailed information than the summary of similar title published in World Agricultural Production and Trade, September 1963.

All reporting countries produced more meat in 1962 than in the 1956-60 average, except Argentina and Paraguay. Twenty-eight of the 39 reporting countries increased production of meat in 1962 over 1961, but five of the countries produced less.

Consumption of meat per person varies widely from country to country. New Zealand was the largest per capita consumer in 1962 with 235 pounds. The other leading consumers in order were Australia, 221 pounds; Uruguay, 213 pounds; Argentina, 202 pounds; United States, 164 pounds; United Kingdom, 138 pounds; Canada, 137 pounds; Denmark, 133; France, 130; Switzerland, 123; West Germany, 118; Austria, 117; Belgium and Luxembourg, 113; Sweden, 111; and the Netherlands, 108 pounds.

Nine of the 15 leading meat consuming countries are in Europe, two are large exporters in South America, and two are large exporters in Oceania. The other two are Canada and the United States. Canada was a fairly small net importer of dressed meat in 1962 and the United States continued to be a large net importer.

MEAT 1/: Per capita consumption by type of meat in  
15 largest consuming countries, 1962

Countries	Class of meat				
	Beef	Pork	Lamb, mutton and goat	Canned meat	Total
	: Pounds	: Pounds	: Pounds	: Pounds	: Pounds
New Zealand.....	105	33	96	2/	235
Australia.....	93	23	98	7	221
Uruguay.....	159	18	36	2/	213
Argentina.....	164	12	14	2/	202
United States.....	95	64	5	2/	164
United Kingdom.....	52	49	24	13	138
Canada.....	76	53	4	4	137
Denmark.....	43	88	1	2/	3/ 133
France.....	69	48	5	2/	3/ 130
Switzerland.....	57	63	1	2/	3/ 123
Germany, West.....	45	70	1	2/	3/ 118
Austria.....	44	68	---	2/	3/ 117
Belgium & Luxembourg....	53	54	1	2/	3/ 113
Sweden.....	38	63	---	2/	3/ 111
Netherlands.....	48	53	---	2/	3/ 108

1/ Beef, veal, lamb and mutton, goat meat and pork (excluding lard).  
2/ Included with other types. 3/ Includes horsemeat, in addition to other types shown.



MEAT 1/: Per capita consumption in specified countries, averages 1951-55, 1956-60, and annual 1952-62

Countries	Averages						1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
	1951-55	1956-60		Pounds	Pounds	Pounds											
North America:																	
Canada 2/.....	129	138	127	129	131	134	138	137	133	138	142	139	139	138	142	139	137
United States 2/.....	151	160	146	155	155	163	167	159	152	160	161	161	161	160	161	161	164
Mexico.....	41	42	38	37	38	37	40	43	43	41	39	38	38	41	39	38	39
South America:																	
Argentina.....	222	218	215	215	217	230	244	239	238	182	189	212	212	182	189	212	202
Brazil.....	61	64	62	61	62	59	64	66	62	64	62	63	63	64	62	63	66
Chile.....	53	61	61	62	52	55	62	60	59	62	60	60	60	55	60	60	60
Colombia.....	58	59	61	57	56	55	59	62	60	55	57	60	60	55	57	60	60
Ecuador.....	22	29	23	19	21	22	22	27	31	32	33	32	32	32	33	32	32
Paraguay.....	120	103	114	141	126	121	108	111	111	93	91	85	70	93	91	85	70
Peru.....	---	31	---	---	27	29	28	31	33	31	33	35	33	31	33	35	34
Uruguay.....	272	231	268	302	238	289	275	185	228	215	251	218	218	215	251	218	213
Venezuela.....	44	49	41	45	47	47	40	47	53	50	54	56	56	50	54	56	---
Europe:																	
Austria.....	94	108	92	97	96	101	104	107	107	110	113	113	113	110	113	113	117
Belgium and Luxembourg.....	100	107	95	96	102	103	106	106	108	106	110	111	111	106	110	111	113
Denmark 2/.....	109	131	100	109	114	127	138	128	131	129	129	129	129	129	129	129	133
Finland.....	63	67	57	58	67	72	70	69	67	64	62	69	69	64	62	69	73
France.....	112	123	106	115	120	123	125	126	122	119	123	129	129	119	123	129	130
Germany, West.....	93	107	86	94	94	101	106	108	111	103	106	110	110	103	106	110	118
Greece.....	25	37	23	24	27	31	33	36	40	40	37	44	44	40	37	44	44
Ireland.....	84	96	78	84	86	90	89	96	93	98	105	98	101	98	105	98	101
Italy.....	38	50	37	40	39	40	46	48	49	53	56	58	64	53	56	58	64
Netherlands.....	81	91	82	77	81	87	89	91	86	88	99	98	108	88	99	98	108
Norway.....	69	75	68	64	71	76	73	77	75	74	77	79	84	74	77	79	84
Portugal.....	37	38	37	37	37	36	36	41	37	38	39	41	43	38	39	41	43
Spain.....	31	31	---	---	---	37	---	37	37	37	41	40	42	38	41	40	42
Sweden.....	103	103	101	98	107	105	100	103	107	105	99	99	111	105	99	99	111
Switzerland.....	92	102	92	93	93	95	100	101	99	102	106	102	123	102	106	102	123
United Kingdom 2/.....	97	132	97	108	120	128	131	134	133	129	132	134	134	129	132	134	138
Bulgaria.....	48	58	45	50	55	50	55	59	64	55	61	62	64	55	61	62	64
Czechoslovakia.....	73	91	71	66	71	76	82	83	82	98	97	98	98	98	97	98	98
Germany, East.....	75	92	73	79	82	84	86	94	85	103	97	102	105	103	97	102	105
Hungary.....	73	90	81	59	73	82	107	84	78	90	82	87	99	80	82	87	99
Poland.....	64	81	60	64	62	67	75	80	86	80	81	85	91	80	81	85	91
Yugoslavia.....	39	44	33	41	41	44	45	40	39	44	49	45	48	44	49	45	48
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	3/ 53	61	---	---	---	53	56	56	63	67	65	64	68	67	65	64	68
Africa:																	
So. Africa, Rep. of.....	74	70	75	74	74	70	68	72	72	72	66	66	66	72	66	66	66
Asia:																	
Japan.....	5	8	5	6	5	6	7	7	8	9	8	10	12	9	8	10	12
Philippines.....	15	19	15	15	14	18	20	19	21	19	18	21	23	19	18	21	23
Oceania:																	
Australia 4/.....	214	228	206	217	213	219	221	227	233	233	227	212	221	233	227	212	221
New Zealand 5/.....	216	222	220	205	211	218	223	221	220	219	227	223	235	219	227	223	235
2/ Carcass meat basis - includes beef, veal, pork, mutton, lamb, goat, and horsemeat; excludes edible variety meats, lard, rabbit, and poultry meat.																	
2/ Per capita consumption figures taken into account changes in commercial stocks. Data for United States and Canada are for civilian consumption only.																	
3/ Less than a 5-year average. 4/ For years ending June 30. 5/ For years ending September 30.																	

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2/ Per capita consumption figures taken into account changes in commercial stocks. Data for United States and Canada are for civilian consumption only.

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Foreign Agricultural Service.

Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of United States agricultural attaches and other representatives abroad, results of office research and related information.

MEAT 1/: Production, net trade, apparent consumption and per capita in specified countries, average 1956-60, annual 1960-62

	Production				Net trade				Apparent consumption				Per capita consumption			
					+ Imports - Exports											
	Average				Average				Average				Average			
	1956-60	1960	1961	1962	1956-60	1960	1961	1962	1956-60	1960	1961	1962	1956-60	1960	1961	1962
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
North America:																
Canada 2/.....	2,387	2,456	2,503	2,506	-30	-9	+34	+50	2,357	2,447	2,537	2,556	138	142	139	137
United States 2/3/	27,215	28,208	28,585	28,961	+744	+935	+1,215	+1,747	27,959	29,143	29,800	30,176	160	161	161	164
Mexico.....	1,414	1,444	1,489	1,535	-74	-72	-92	-106	1,360	1,372	1,397	1,429	42	39	38	39
South America:																
Argentina.....	5,780	4,989	5,322	5,367	-1369	-983	-980	-1,197	4,411	4,006	4,342	4,170	218	189	212	202
Brazil.....	4,162	4,127	4,290	4,471	-98	-37	-111	-85	4,064	4,090	4,179	4,386	64	62	63	66
Chile.....	429	453	452	433	+3	+7	+16	+20	432	460	468	453	61	60	60	57
Colombia.....	797	809	874	875	---	---	---	---	797	809	874	875	59	57	60	60
Paraguay.....	210	199	198	200	-38	-39	-44	-72	172	160	154	128	103	91	85	70
Peru.....	304	332	333	341	+12	+3	+10	+13	316	335	343	354	31	33	35	34
Uruguay.....	734	866	735	758	-103	-153	-113	-152	631	713	622	606	231	251	218	213
Venezuela.....	207	324	362	---	+22	+37	+27	---	229	361	389	---	49	54	56	---
Europe:																
Austria.....	745	783	786	815	+8	+10	+10	+10	753	793	796	825	108	113	113	117
Belgium and Luxembourg.....	967	986	987	1,018	+21	+20	+42	+49	988	1,006	1,029	1,067	107	110	111	113
Denmark 2/.....	1,529	1,689	1,750	1,791	-913	-1,046	-1,043	-1,134	616	643	707	657	131	129	129	133
Finland.....	290	274	299	332	+1	+2	+11	---	291	276	310	332	67	62	69	73
France.....	5,403	5,761	6,099	6,390	+99	-138	-212	-382	5,344	5,623	5,887	6,008	123	123	129	130
Germany, West.....	5,500	5,770	6,008	6,451	+198	+189	+244	+330	5,568	5,959	6,252	6,821	107	106	110	115
Greece.....	255	254	314	306	+41	+55	+60	+67	256	309	374	373	37	37	44	44
Ireland.....	456	538	586	574	-181	-281	-309	-292	275	297	277	282	96	105	98	101
Italy.....	2,158	2,434	2,756	2,951	+262	+337	+119	+252	2,120	2,771	2,875	3,203	50	56	58	64
Netherlands.....	1,345	1,551	1,457	1,579	-325	-408	-315	-304	1,020	1,143	1,142	1,275	91	99	98	108
Norway.....	260	269	282	295	+4	+7	+2	+12	264	276	284	307	75	77	79	84
Portugal.....	328	345	357	390	+6	+15	+22	+13	334	360	379	403	38	39	41	43
Spain.....	1,072	1,222	1,209	1,172	+4	+27	+23	+126	1,076	1,249	1,232	1,298	31	41	40	42
Sweden.....	743	763	760	850	-15	-22	-16	-10	728	741	744	840	103	99	99	111
Switzerland.....	494	530	556	601	+34	+42	+51	+88	528	572	607	689	102	106	110	123
United Kingdom 2/.....	3,736	3,783	4,137	4,320	+3375	+3,476	+3,248	+3,343	7,111	7,264	7,385	7,663	132	132	134	138
Bulgaria.....	482	485	---	---	-31	-5	-19	---	451	480	---	---	58	61	62	64
Czechoslovakia.....	1,091	1,128	1,168	---	+127	+198	+187	---	1,218	1,326	1,355	---	91	97	98	98
Germany, East.....	1,385	1,456	1,507	---	+212	+215	+234	---	1,597	1,671	1,741	---	92	97	102	105
Hungary.....	910	825	876	1,002	-20	+10	-2	---	890	815	874	---	90	82	87	99
Poland.....	2,510	2,604	2,890	2,998	-170	-201	-354	---	2,340	2,403	2,536	---	81	81	85	91
Yugoslavia.....	914	1,103	1,074	---	-120	-193	-244	-301	794	910	830	---	44	49	45	48
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	12,510	13,949	13,900	14,980	+164	+33	-24	+169	12,674	13,982	13,876	---	61	65	64	68
Africa:																
So. Africa, Rep. of.....	1,079	1,110	1,130	1,162	-23	-25	---	---	1,056	1,085	---	---	70	66	66	66
Asia:																
Japan.....	688	710	839	1,105	+29	+65	+64	+62	717	775	903	1,167	8	8	10	12
Philippines.....	420	462	580	647	+53	+43	+27	+43	473	505	607	690	19	18	21	23
Oceania:																
Australia 2/ 4/.....	2,977	2,997	3,153	3,547	-726	-748	-867	-1,149	2,251	2,249	2,286	2,398	228	227	212	221
New Zealand 2/ 5/.....	1,441	1,649	1,697	1,559	-954	-1,060	-1,043	-1,062	437	589	654	497	228	227	223	235

1/ Carcass meat basis - includes beef, veal, pork, mutton, lamb, goat, and horsemeat; excludes edible variety meats, lard, rabbit, and poultry meat.  
2/ Per capita consumption figures take into account changes in commercial stocks. Per capita data for the United States and Canada are civilian consumption only. 3/ Includes horsemeat in trade and apparent consumption. 4/ Per capita consumption figures are for years ending June 30. 5/ Per capita consumption figures are for years ending September 30.

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Per capita meat use was extremely low in Japan in 1962, averaging only 12 pounds. However, consumption in Japan is increasing rapidly and in 1962 was 2 pounds over 1961 and 4 pounds over the 1956-60 average. Other countries low in meat consumption in 1962 were: Philippines, 23 pounds; Ecuador, 32; Peru, 34; Mexico, 39; Spain, 42; Portugal, 43; Greece, 44, Yugoslavia, 48; and Chile, 57 pounds.

Meat consumption in the USSR during 1962 reached a new high, averaging 68 pounds, a 4-pound increase over 1961 and a 7-pound increase over the 1956-60 average. In 1960 and 1961, per capita consumption of meat dropped to 65 and 64 pounds, respectively, from the previous record of 67 pounds reached in 1959. Yugoslavia and Bulgaria were the only East European countries that consumed less meat per person than in the USSR in 1962.

Of the 109 billion pounds of meat eaten in the world in 1962, excluding Communist China, 50 percent was beef and veal, 40 percent pork and 9 percent mutton, lamb and goat meat, and less than one-half of 1 percent was horse meat.

The United States continues to consume more total meat than any other country in the world - almost 31 billion pounds in 1962. U.S. consumption accounted for 28 percent of the world supply of all types, 32 percent of the beef and veal, 27 percent of the pork, and 11 percent of the lamb, mutton, and goat meat.

The United Kingdom is the largest meat importer in the world, receiving 3.4 billion pounds in 1962 compared with 1.8 billion pounds imported by the United States. In 1953 the United Kingdom imported 3.2 billion pounds and the United States imported 438 million pounds. Other countries importing meat in quantity were West Germany, Italy, Canada, Russia, Spain, Belgium and Luxembourg, Switzerland, Sweden, France, and Greece.

In 1962, three countries exported over 50 percent of their production; New Zealand, 68 percent; Denmark, 63 percent; and Ireland, 51 percent. Other countries exporting large amounts of their production were Australia, 32 percent; the Netherlands, 24 percent; Argentina, 22; and Uruguay, 20 percent. In comparison, the United States exported less than 1 percent of its production.

